

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

On page 1, lines 1-7 of the specification, please amend the first paragraph as follows:

Silica-based sols

This application is a continuation of PCT/SE00/00822, filed with an international filing date of April 28, 2000, now abandoned, which claims priority of European Patent Application No. 99850074.8, filed May 4, 1999, U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/132,359, filed May 4, 1999, Swedish Patent Application No. 9901687-5, filed May 6, 1999, European Patent Application No. 99850160.5, filed October 29, 1999 and U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/162,445, filed October 29, 1999.